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military professionals must have something to show for their positions, and the government and people will stand unconcernedly by and let them have it.

But there is a more serious objection to the proposal of these costly coast-defences than the financial one. The recommendation that they be built proceeds upon the assumption that the nations of the world are so disaffected toward us that they are preparing and awaiting the opportunity to attack us, and that the relation of the nations to each other in the future is to be one of hatred and war as has been the case in the past. This assumption is utterly false in both particulars. We are just as safe now from attack as we would be, — nay rather, more so, — if we had a thousand coast-batteries of high-power guns planted, one by one, on every cape and promontory, and at every harbor's mouth, of both our long seabards; simply because there is nobody to attack us. The walls of old fortified cities are crumbling away before the growing civilization of the world, wars are becoming less and less frequent, the burdened nations of Europe are groaning for relief from their heavy load of taxes and from the terrors of militarism, which they will soon throw off in some way, the people have grown tired of war and are beginning to rise up everywhere and condemn it, Christianity and commerce are making the world one brotherhood; can it be that, in the face of all this, the United States, which has marched in the front in all this anti-war progress, is deliberately to fall back to the rear, in a base and cowardly way? Boasting herself to have cast off the effete civilization of the Old World, is she to degrade herself by hastening to put on the worst portion of this effeteness? First, they say, we must have ships of war, and forthwith the people allow them to be built. Now we must spend an incredible sum on coast defences and double our army and set up militarism in our schools and churches, and every man is considered unpatriotic who dares to utter a word of warning before the incoming tide has overwhelmed us!

SENATOR CHANDLER'S PREDICTION.

The *Philadelphia Press*, as quoted on another page, takes Senator Chandler to task for his reckless utterances about "Our Coming War with England." In a recent number of the Senator's own paper, *The Evening Monitor*, of Concord, N. H., in a leader written by himself, Mr. Chandler makes the following prediction, which is as wicked and unworthy as it is unlikely to be realized:

"War between the United States and England is inevitable. It will arise on account of British disregard for our direct interests. It will also be forced by British encroachments upon other nations all over the world. It will be fought by us, having Russia as our European ally. One sure result will be the capture and permanent acquisition of Canada by the United States.

"The above prediction, Senator Chandler has frequently made since England began her fraudulent usur-

pations in Venezuela. She also proposes to seize from the United States a portion of Alaska. She is destroying independent governments in all parts of the globe. She treats American sentiment and remonstrance with insolence and defiance."

"For the vindication of the Monroe doctrine in the Western hemisphere and the protection of these independent governments in the Eastern hemisphere and the islands of the oceans, it is necessary that the United States should prepare for and go to war with England. It is serious business, but it had better come now and be over than fifty years from now."

"Russia will be our ally. Russia and the United States, the two non-colonizing great nations, are the hope of the small independent governments of both hemispheres. Together they can defy the world. They must and will restrain the brutality and bloody avarice of Great Britain."

"A million of men and muskets will overrun Canada, and England's commercial ships will be swept from the ocean. She cannot reach us to injure us except by sending ironclads across the Atlantic to capture our harbors. Little comparative damage will be done; while the waters and the land will soon see the ruin of the ships and the slaughter of the armies of the invader."

Such wild, utterly insane talk may, after all, do good in awakening sensible people to the growing peril to the country of the irrational and bloodthirsty jingoism which is strutting about the land in the garb of "patriotism." We have no disposition to ignore the greed and "bloody avarice" of Great Britain, in her colonial movements. It could scarcely be made worse than it has been. We have often wished that our colleagues in that country would be more faithful than they have been in smiting, hip and thigh, with their moral indignation the high-handed colonial tyranny of their government which every British cabinet seems to consider perfectly righteous simply because it is centuries old. But think of the United States entering deliberately into the same unrighteous spirit and practice! What else, pray, great senator, would the overrunning and capture and permanent occupancy of Canada be! Think, again, of our entering into a "holy alliance" with monarchical, despotic, land-greedy Russia for securing the righteousness of the world! — with Russia whose pitiless arm would long ago have grabbed all of South-eastern Europe and all of Northern and Central Asia, and nearly everything else, if her territorial avarice had had the long-headed shrewdness of British diplomacy to guide it! The pity of it is that Senator Chandler is not alone in his violent vagaries, not even in the distinguished body of which he is a member!

The Michigan Woman's Press Association, which last year prepared a peace program for the celebration of the 17th of December, Whittier's birthday, as Peace Day for the schools of that State, has gotten up an excellent program for the same occasion this year. It is printed in full in the October number of the *Interchange*, published at Charlotte, Mich., and edited by Mrs. Belle M. Perry.

Remember to ask your minister to speak on peace on Peace Sunday, the 15th inst.